

# The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 21,230. Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney.

For Notices of Births, Marriages,  
Deaths, &c. See Page 6.**SUMMARY.**

Thousands of people were killed by the earthquake at Messina, and several towns were completely destroyed. The damage is estimated at £20,000,000.

Mr. Macdonald, M.P. (Labour), says that unless the Cabinet, including Mr. Winston Churchill, will get into disastrous conflict with the colonies.

He declares that when Mr. Churchill threatened to veto very blundering statesmanship, Mr. Macdonald has introduced the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill.

The measure applies to foreign ships, the British regulations regarding overloading, unsuperintended storage of grain, and life-savers.

Lord George has admitted that British shipowners are subjected to grossly unfair foreign competition.

He describes lascars as other, courageous, heroes who have been deprived by the British of their own coastal trade.

In 20 Russian provinces during the Agrarian outrage, damage was done to landlords' property to the extent of £20,000,000.

In the same provinces 800 houses of German residents were burned.

Twenty armed men robbed the Mutual Credit Society's Bank, Moscow, of £55,000, and invaded the troops who were guarding the premises.

The robbers placed a large infernal machine in the centre of the building, and threatened to explode it in the event of an alarm.

Vicente Hayashi, in an interview prior to leaving England, dwelt upon many national characteristics common to the British and Japanese.

A court-martial in Japan sentenced six British sailors to death for taking up arms against the King.

The sentences were subsequently commuted to imprisonment for terms varying from 10 to seven years, besides fines.

In the action for alleged slander, M. Arthur and Co. v. Sir William Lyon, the jury by majority gave a verdict for the defendant.

At the request of counsel for the defendant the Court granted a stay of execution until next term.

In the action brought by Henry Kitching against Dr. J. M. McDonagh to recover on a promissory note the jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff.

The Chief Justice said that in this case there had been "desperate, deliberate, direct perfidy" on one side or the other.

His Honor commented on the fact that Kitching had got two sums of £75 each from tradesmen, and in view of the sum of goods received for Government House.

He also pointed out that Kitching, when a messenger, had been able to get a Government launch at the Government expense for his boat.

At the Hawker inquiry yesterday Hallett said he had had 21 years' service, and never had a better commanding officer than Major H. G. Lyle.

In connection with the death of Edith Norman, Nurse Wilson has been committed to trial on a charge of manslaughter.

Percy Singer and Mrs. Raven, who were shot at Petersham, are progressing favourably. The former injuries were not dangerous.

Nicholas Walpole Raven, who was engaged in shooting affray, is badly bruised on the head and has suffered a fracture of the nose.

He complained that he was knocked down and maltreated while in his own house.

The Queensland Government is about to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the supply of labour for the cane-fields.

Dick Murfitt, a well-known horse trainer, was found dead in his house at Camerton (N.Z.). He had been shot through the back of the head.

His wife lay unconscious beside him. She had been shot through the breast.

Before the Railway Commission yesterday further evidence was given in regard to the driver incident.

Mr. Fenton said the driver was nearly always open, and that any of the Commissioners might have seen a scrap of paper from it.

He described the circumstances under which Mr. Kneeshaw (Tariff Department) was brought into the railway service in this State.

Mr. Fenton found him in charge of some exhibits at an exhibition in New Zealand, and "took a fancy to him."

At Mr. Fenton's suggestion Mr. Eddy, who had also seen Mr. Kneeshaw, sent him and he was engaged at a salary of £300 a year.

Annie Johnston, found guilty of manslaughter after the death of Harry Diamond, was sentenced to a year and 11 months' labour.

At the request of counsel for the prisoner a number of points were reserved for the Full Court.

A witness advocated before the Tariff Commission that machinery used for the development of the country by irrigation or otherwise should not be taxed.

It is urged that it is a number of articles that had been taken since Friday, said "the customers paid the duty."

The stockmen who struck work at Metters and Co.'s factory have formed a union, with the intention of registering under the Arbitration Act.

Alas Major Millard, ex-M.L.A., has been committed for trial for alleged larceny as a result of £60.

A violent cyclonic storm is operating in the New South Wales and sea areas running on New South Wales coast.

Vessels trading to Brisbane, Noumea, and Auckland may meet the full force of the storm. A warning to shipmasters was issued yesterday.

Every garment shrunk in washing vessel trading to Brisbane, Noumea, and Auckland.

Willie Corless died at Coalcliff yesterday from a wound which he accidentally inflicted upon himself with a pea rifle.

Mr. Coghlan says that the last New South Wales loan in London realised £23,000 per cent. and that the next £20,000 per cent. for 12 months was £250,000.

Mr. Philip George Ryan, of the "Perth Morning Herald," has died from plague at Fremantle.

William Corless died at Coalcliff yesterday from a wound which he accidentally inflicted upon himself with a pea rifle.

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The secretary of the Seamen's Union at Weymouth (N.E.) has restricted his services, but the union has restricted crimpers' operations.

Mr. Deakin intimates that if the States make lands available for settlers the Commonwealth will supply immigrants to take them up.

He suggests that the immigration should be dealt with by the Commonwealth, acting in co-operation with the States.

The trial of William Patrick, ex-M.L.A., will be commenced at the Criminal Court to-day.

The Political Labour Conference in Melbourne will consider a proposal to change the name of the party to Socialist Labour.

A fair amount of business was done in the Stock and Share market yesterday, there being no important change in quotations.

Trade figures again commanded most attention at the Mining market. Prices in the whole were easier.

**LACE-LOVERS' OPPORTUNITY.****SPECIAL PURCHASE.**

14,500 YARDS OF

**FRENCH VALENCIENNES LACE.****INSERTIONS TO MATCH.**

We have made a Special Purchase of 14,500 yards of FRENCH VALENCIENNES LACE at a low price.

SO TO 25 PER CENT.

**BELLOW USUAL PRICES.**

In all cases where we obtain ADVANTAGE, i.e.

BUYING, we are OFFERING PATRON'S FULL BENEFIT.

Mr. Macdonald, M.P. (Labour), says that unless the Cabinet, including Mr. Winston Churchill, will get into disastrous conflict with the colonies.

He declares that when Mr. Churchill threatened to veto very blundering statesmanship,

Mr. Macdonald has introduced the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill.

The measures applies to foreign ships, the British regulations regarding overloading, unsuperintended storage of grain, and life-savers.

And AS A WARNING LET IT BE UNPUNCTUATED.

Now we can afford to buy French lace.

We are offering a special discount on our lace.

We declare that when Mr. Churchill threatened to veto very blundering statesmanship,

we need not remind our patrons that lace are used in vogue for numberless purposes.

For Dainty Trimmings for Dressing Gowns, for Coverings, for Bedding, for Pillows, etc.

RECOMMENDED FOR EXCELSIOR WHARF.

Charington at Durban.

ANALYST..... N. Alcan..... Noon, April 2.

BALMORAL..... N. Alcan..... Noon, April 2.

BOHOPOLY..... N. Alcan..... Noon, May 12.

BROOKLYN..... F. W. Vibert, R.N.R. ....

CROWN..... F. W. Vibert, R.N.R. ....

DARLINGTON..... F. W. Vibert, R.N.R. ....

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DALEYTON..... F. W. Vibert, R.N.R. ....

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## GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE HAWKSBURY RIVER.  
In conjunction with the Steamer General Gordon, 72 miles from Hall, 20 by Steamer.

TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND SATURDAY NEXT.  
Trains will leave Sydney at 5.30 a.m., and Milson's Point at 8.30 a.m.

The River Trip will occupy 6 hours.  
MEETINGS FAIRIES from Ryde and suburban stations, including Homebush Trip—First-class, 6s; Second-class, 3s 6d.

Rodsheds can be obtained on board the steamer at reasonable rates.

By order of the Commissioners.

H. MC-LACHLAN, Secretary,  
New South Wales Government Railways.

RAILWAY COMMISIONERS' OFFICE.—Tenders for the undermentioned SUPPLIES, etc., will be received at the Railway Commissioners' Office, Sydney, on Friday, March 23, on the dates specified—

MONDAY, MARCH, 1906.

THE PURCHASE OF SCRAP COPPER AND SCRAP YLOW METALS. Particulars Railway Stores, Eve-

logal.

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1906.

THE SUPPLY OF 10,000 IRONBARK TRAMWAY SLEEPERS, in lots not less than 500, delivered at Milson's Point or at the railway station, from Ryde, Under Forme, etc., Tramway En-

gineer's Office, 26 Phillip-street, Sydney.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order of the Commissioners.

H. MC-LACHLAN, Secretary.

AMUSEMENTS.

TOWN HALL.

TO-DAY, THURSDAY,

2nd MARCH.

GRAND AUTUMN SHOW.

To open at 2 p.m.

ANDERSON AND CO.'S Latest Importations of Glad-

iolis. HOWELL'S Mountain Gladiolus.

KERSEY'S Marvels in Cactus Dahlias.

Palms, Ferns, Hothouse Plants, Orchids, Fruit and Vegetables.

BAND THROUGHOUT THE SHOW.

THE SHOW will be open from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.; from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADMISSION.—Before 5 p.m., 2s 6d; after that, 3s.

Children half price.

H. H. B. BRADLEY, Hon. Secy., 62 Margaret-street.

PETERSHAM TOWN HALL.

TO-NIGHT AND EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT.

CLAY'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.

New Artists. New Illustrated Songs.

And New Moving Pictures.

Admission: Front Seats 6d Extra.

MASONIC HALL, SYDNEY,

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT.

CROWN L. O. R. A. M. A.

FULL LENGTH, 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M.

The Baldwin, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 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## LAW REPORT.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21.

## BANCO COURT.

(Before the Chief Justice and a jury of four.)

## A THEATRICAL VENGEANCE.

## ACTION ON A PROMISSORY NOTE.

## STRONG COMMENTS BY THE JUDGE.

## A MESSENGER'S INFLUENCE.

PENTERON ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER.

KIRKMAN v. McDEAKIN.

Mr. Watt, instructed by Messrs. Buchanan and Smithers, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ferguson, instructed by Messrs. J. Stuart Thomas Brothers and Co., for the defendant.

Plaintiff's case was that he had applied to John M. McDeakin to recover the sum of £900, made up of £25 balance of a promissory note for £150, with interest of 6%.

Defendant's case was that the note had been drawn up for the purpose of advancing £150 to a man named Lee, who had got into difficulties over theatricals, and that the bill had been paid by the defendant, and also by Mr. John Bennett as a guarantee.

Defendant pleaded that the note was signed for the accommodation of the plaintiff, for his personal use, and no consideration was given for it.

It was admitted that the defendant had given the plaintiff £150, and that he did not receive notice of this.

His Honor, in summing up, said that if the jury came to the conclusion that the note was made only for the accommodation of the plaintiff, then the defendant was not liable, and, therefore, the plaintiff must prove that there was a strong political feeling and something deeper, between the defendant and Mr. Pulsford, or, if not, what the defendant had stated in his defence, that the note was not dangerous in itself, because it had been stated by plaintiffs that they were carrying on business with the defendant.

His Honor, after hearing the petitioners' evidence in support of the issues, his Honor dismissed the petition, not being satisfied with the evidence as to the description ad-

the bill's provisions. The other three members being Government members would be appointed to the bill. According to Mr. Deakin there must have been a heated discussion, and he had given his evidence on that point, and that was why any defense was concerned, the case was limited to Mr. Pulsford on one side and Sir William Lyne on the other. Mr. Playford, in his speech, said he had even recollect the occasion. His mind was an absolute blank. Mr. Deakin had given them very little, and there was a point in that he had given his evidence on that point, and he had given his evidence on that point, and that was that to a certain extent it corroborated what Mr. Pulsford had said.

The case stands part heard.

## HARRIS v. HARRIS.

(Before Mr. Justice Cohen and Juries.)

## JESTENCES.

Anne Johnston, a married woman, who had been convicted on a charge of manslaughter, was called to give her evidence.

Mr. Moriarty, who appeared for the prisoner, asked: "William Hubert Harris on the ground of the charge of manslaughter, you have given your evidence?"

The witness: "Yes, I have given my evidence."

Mr. Moriarty: "What do you say about the defendant?"

The witness: "I say he is innocent."

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## FORMOSA EARTHQUAKE.

### TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE.

#### SEVERAL TOWNS DESTROYED.

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The Tokio correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" reports that in the earthquake at Formosa thousands of people were killed. The whole island was shaken, and several towns were completely destroyed.

The damage is estimated at £90,000.

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## THE WEEK IN LONDON.

## LABOUR IN PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The House of Commons met on Tuesday, but Parliament is to be opened formally by the King in person next Monday. I need enter into no technical details, but enough was seen at the beginning to throw a strong light upon the fact that there are some anomalies here which are not to be found elsewhere. It was announced to see the scramble for seats in a House which it is certain will be for a time too small to accommodate comfortably more than three-fourths of the members who wish to attend. The new Labour party seemed especially to interest their fellow members and the officials, and they looked fairly well after themselves in regard to their status as men, and did not much for it literally, although it has a good basis in fact. In order to secure a seat in the House of Commons you slip your card in a small frame at the back of the seat which you propose to occupy. It is of course an understood thing that the front Opposition bench is reserved for men of Government, but that is not the case, and the result was, scarce took place with a fine disregard of custom, the seat which, in an ordinary way, would be occupied by Mr. Balfour, who would probably not have been among the early birds even if he had been yet formally elected. "It can't hit them," eagerly whispered one of the more knowing ones on the Labour benches, "that will be Balfour's seat." But it is said to have been the accommodating reply. In any case, a Labour member sitting on the front Opposition bench, with an overwhelming Liberal majority in power, would even if the incident had lasted for a few minutes, have been an indication of the political revolution which we have just gone through.

## THE NEW PRIME MINISTER.

As to the new Prime Minister, there is no doubt that he is a man of great tact. He is not what is called "expansive," and although he is shrewd, he is kindly, and he is humorous. And Scotch humour, although traditionally supposed to be rare, is a very good thing when you get it, and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's thoughtful face, illuminated with a smile when he has driven a shaft home, is worth a good many other sights in politics. What has been forgotten, however, is that he has been brought here, how he dealt with Mr. Chamberlain's suggestion that there should be a joint effort to "bluff" President Kruger. The truth is that the country has been sick for a long time of the Boer and Cox arrangement which has been kept up in order that the tariff reform movement might be maintained. The personal reprisals which followed the Boer in this matter is that of Mr. Balfe, who has now declared more or less officially for Mr. Chamberlain's views. People fancy that there has been a concealed understanding of long duration, and if so, this is not in accordance with the ordinary out-spokenness of English public opinion. The most interesting Ministerial statement, however, has been made by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman on old-age pensions. The Government are apparently fully inclined to adopt the principle, but they are going to make no rash promises until they see their way financially. For the rest, it looks as if "peace and economy" are to be the order of the day.

## MR. COOGLAN'S POSITION.

A report went the rounds of the English newspapers a few days ago that Mr. Coghlan had resigned his position as Agent-General to go to take up the post of Federal Statistician in Melbourne. I know this from personal experience, that if the rumour had been true there would have been great regret among Anglo-Australians in London. There are some people who persist in saying that Australian affairs have been over-hyped of late, but these are matters for comparison, and there are certain occasions when the public are entitled to compare. I compare the other day to be in company with a gentleman who is an important employer of labour in Canada, and who has quite recently been contesting an English constituency, and who may even yet be heard of in the English political world. "Why," he said to me, "we spend £60,000 in getting Canada known where Australians and New Zealanders are—our newspapermen who are the best in the world, and the best in the English-speaking world, will do the same for us." But in the early part of this month exceptionally heavy rains have fallen over the eastern half of the continent, and in New South Wales, as far as Sydney, the rainfall has been so great that the roads are impassable. Whether it is the same in Victoria, I am not able to say, but the opinion of the analyst showed no trace of poison. A verdict of death from natural causes was recorded.

## THE RABBIT OR THE SHEEP, WHICH?

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir.—Before entering upon the chief claim for existence from the rabbit point of view, the fact cannot be lost sight of that already it has been a great factor in the deterioration of the soil, and in the loss of its productivity.

It is the opinion of the experts that to leave the town for the interior districts, with the full confidence that if things come to the worst, and the fact to be admitted that the park has not been badly kept,

the blame for that does not lie on the residents, but on the people who live in the park.

I am, etc., ED. A. BEEDY.

## THE INSURANCE AGENT.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir.—As a consumer subject, life assurance has, of late, received much public handling. But let the office be what it will, proprietary or purely mutual, and the question no matter of the particular form of organization, the insurance companies have been appointed manager of the Mutual Insurance branch.

On Tuesday evening Mr. William Powe, resident of Sydney for many years, was tendered a sumptuous home-made dinner by friends, the function taking the form of a banquet, over which Mr. W. H. Carrick presided. The guest was presented with a silver-mounted umbrella, as a token of esteem.

## THE INSURANCE AGENT.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir.—I have mentioned the change which is contemplated in connection with the removal of the Agent-General's Department to premises in the city. The window in the newly-acquired building is being dressed with a large exhibit on New South Wales, with which we are pleased to associate a good deal of interest. Of course, all this bears directly or indirectly on the question of emigration.

Meetings which have been recently held in connection with this matter have been successful, and the officials of the Agent-General's Department are very busy. I learn from one gentleman that his engagements are full up for three months, also while the Agent-General's Department is in the hands of the higher class assessors, which it is thought may result in the creation of a new class of valuable settlers for Australia, on the lines of the system which has already been adopted in Canada.

## THE ARID WEST.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir.—Notwithstanding all that has been said to endeavour to solve the problem of "What is best to be done with the Western Division," it is still difficult to come to a conclusion brought about by evolution, and the circumstances of the hour, of which I propose, with your permission, to bring up.

The leading metropolitan paper comes forward, as you have done, to solve the problem—bringing in support of your proposal to re-arrange the electric lighting system, and it is to be trusted to fix a mistake, in spite of the hardening mixture with which it is supposed to be covered. An expert assures me, however, that in his opinion we may see important developments in the matter of incandescent lighting before long. As it stands the light is more truly electric in its diffusion, and in many cases much cheaper. It is stated that with the same illuminating power the gas on Waterloo Bridge will cost only about one-third or one-fourth of that of electric light, and it is also said that many cases of street lighting the cost has been greatly reduced. Another drawn-out argument of the electric light standards on Waterloo Bridge by gas standards, and it is hardly necessary to say that the proper lighting of a much-frequented London bridge is a matter of the greatest importance. Many of the large towns, and the less wealthy cities, are also showing a disposition to replace electricity by gas. Of course, this is all due to the invention of the incandescent mantle, and the recent improvements of the mantle in the matter of reliability and cheapness. It is far from perfect yet. Its life as a first-rate illuminating power is short, and it is still difficult to come to a conclusion. A new body is to be trusted to fix a mistake, in spite of the hardening mixture with which it is supposed to be covered. An expert assures me, however, that in his opinion we may see important developments in the matter of incandescent lighting before long. As it stands the light is more truly electric in its diffusion, and in many cases much cheaper. 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